

NOTICE

SCC Study

HJR153 – Underground Placement of Utility Distribution Lines

By resolution adopted on March 10, 2004 (HJR153), the Virginia General Assembly requested the Virginia State Corporation Commission to study the underground placement of utility distribution lines. The study is to address the feasibility of locating utility distribution lines underground, the costs of such activity, and the options for funding those costs.

To assist the Commission with this study, Commission staff invites any interested person to submit comments on this matter. **Comments are due on or before September 15, 2004.**

It would be helpful if such comments also address the following items:

- The potential benefits associated with undergrounding overhead distribution lines.
- The potential negatives associated with undergrounding overhead distribution lines.
- In order of importance, a list of criteria for determining whether certain overhead lines are eligible for being relocated underground.
- A list of potential options for funding the relocation of overhead distribution lines underground and the reasons for each option. Examples: an increase in rates on all customers, an increase in rates only on customers who directly benefit from undergrounding, a special tax assessment on affected customers.
- If public policy warrants placing underground all or a portion of existing and/or new overhead distribution lines, should the policy be established by state law or local ordinance? Explain why.

Comments may be submitted electronically to the Commission via the following website: www.state.va.us/scc/hjr153.htm. If written comments are submitted, send one copy to each of the persons listed below:

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